

HOUSE BILL NO. 582

INTRODUCED BY G. GUTSCHE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO PROVIDE A FEASIBILITY REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHRONIC DISEASE REGISTRY."

~~WHEREAS, chronic diseases are the leading cause of death in Montana; and~~

~~WHEREAS, detailed epidemiological information is essential to the identification, prevention, and management of chronic diseases; and~~

~~WHEREAS, there is increasing concern for the relationship between exposure to environmental threats and incidence of chronic diseases, including cancer; and~~

~~WHEREAS, an adequate public health response to environmental threats is dependent upon chronic disease epidemiologic information; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Montana does not have a comprehensive chronic disease registry; and~~

~~WHEREAS, in September 2000, the Pew Environmental Health Commission at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health published recommendations concerning the need for chronic disease tracking systems that will provide useful guidance to Montana.~~

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Department study of chronic disease registry. (1) The department of public health and human services shall present to the 58th legislature a feasibility report, as provided for in 5-11-210, concerning the development of a comprehensive chronic disease registry that must, at a minimum, address:

(a) an assessment of current chronic disease-related data collection systems, including an analysis of data elements, confidentiality requirements, data sets, and the potential of integration and coordination of the existing tumor registry with a comprehensive chronic disease registry;

(b) the purpose of having a chronic disease registry, including the use of its data;

(c) a definition of chronic diseases and the prioritization of which diseases should be included in

- 1 a chronic disease registry;
- 2 (d) the estimated costs of developing a chronic disease registry;
- 3 (e) the methods by which health care facilities, health care practitioners, and others would provide
- 4 data to a chronic disease registry;
- 5 (f) statutory modifications necessary to implement a chronic disease registry;
- 6 (g) the potential electronic linkages of a chronic disease registry to other data sources;
- 7 (h) measures to ensure the confidentiality of data provided to and extracted from a chronic disease
- 8 registry;
- 9 (i) which data elements, data definitions, and data sets are necessary to implement a chronic
- 10 disease registry; and
- 11 (j) the recommendations of the Pew environmental health commission, the centers for disease
- 12 control and prevention, the national institute for occupational safety and health, and other pertinent
- 13 organizations and agencies.
- 14 (2) The department may convene a task force of health care professionals, environmental
- 15 professionals, epidemiologists, state agencies, legislators, citizens, and others to guide the development
- 16 of the feasibility report required under subsection (1).
- 17 (3) The department shall pursue funding and other assistance from federal and state agencies and
- 18 private organizations to assist in the development of the feasibility study and to conduct pilot programs
- 19 of a chronic disease registry, if necessary.

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